



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Am

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,194	07/10/2001	Mitsuhiro Fukatsu	1232-4736	8300
27123	7590	05/04/2005	EXAMINER	
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P. 3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER NEW YORK, NY 10281-2101			CABRERA, ZOILA E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2125	

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/902,194

Applicant(s)

FUKATSU ET AL.

Examiner

Zoila E. Cabrera

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-13, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-13, 16, 19, 20, 23 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Final Rejection

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-3, 14-15, 17-18, 21-22 and 25 have been cancelled.

Claims 4-13, 16, 19-20, and 23-24 are remained for consideration.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 4-13, 16, 19-20, and 23-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 4-13, 16, 19-20, and 23-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Suzuki et al. (US 6,633,795)**.

Suzuki discloses a system, method and computer readable medium for processing environmental information comprising:

As for independent claims 4, 19 and 23

As for claims 4, 19 and 23

- a product constitution information storage means for storing product constitution information including information on raw materials constituting each of parts of a product (Fig. 7); a raw material environmental information storage means for storing environmental information about an amount of hazardous substance included in the raw materials (Fig. 4, step 207b1; Col. 39, lines 20-32); and integrated environmental information forming means for forming integrated environmental information including total amount of the hazardous substance with respect to each product on the basis of the product constitution information (Fig. 7) and the environmental information (Fig. 18, i.e., Use Inhibited Material Name) about the amount of the hazardous substance for each of the raw materials (Col. 43, line 20-32, i.e., the harmful/hazardous substance contained in that part are displayed. It is inherent that the total amount of the hazardous substance is displayed in order to apply the proper treatment or subsequent processing of that part; Col. 26, lines 35-42; Col. 39, lines 20-32).

As for claims 5,

- information about the raw materials includes information about whether or not the hazardous substance as a chemical substance to be environmentally prohibited or reduced is contained (Fig. 28, i.e., Use Inhibited Material Name; Fig. 4, step 207b1).

As for claim 6,

- user information storage means for storing user information, wherein said integrated environmental information forming means forms integrated environmental information on the basis of the user information (Fig. 7).

As for claim 7,

- a product environmental information storage section for storing environmental information about the products (Fig. 29), wherein said integrated environmental information forming section forms integrated environmental information with respect to each product on the basis of the environmental information about the raw materials (Fig. 28) and the product environmental information about the products (Col. 43, lines 19-32).

As for claims 8 and 16,

- the product environmental information includes at least one of power consumption, the amount of a metal consumed, the disassembly time, and the amount of ozone generated (Fig. 8, i.e. Power supply Duration; Fig. 27-28, LEAD).

As for claims 9-10,

- said integrated environmental information forming means forms integrated environmental information with respect to each product by assigning one key information item to one product (Col. 43, lines 56-60, bar code);
- search means for searching the integrated environmental information (Col. 41, line 65 – Col. 42, lines 12; Fig. 4, steps 207a and 207b);

As for claims 11 and 13,

- display means for displaying a result of a search through the integrated environmental information searched by said search means (Col. 43, lines 25-32).

With respect to claim 12, **Embutsu** further discloses,

- an environmental information storage means for storing environmental information including information about whether or not raw materials of a product include a chemical substance to be environmentally at least one of prohibited and reduced (Col. 39, lines 20-32; Fig. 25, steps 254, 256, 260, 261; Fig. 27, i.e. CONTAINED HARMFUL SUBSTANCED: LEAD); user information storage means for storing user information (Fig. 4, step 207a; Col. 12, lines 11-17; Col. 42, lines 6-10; Fig. 7); and search means for searching the environmental information on the basis of the user information (Col. 41, line 65 – Col. 42, line 12; Fig. 2, step 213 HARMFUL/HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SUBSTANCE; Fig. 4, steps 207a and 207b1).

As for claims 20 and 24, the same citations applied to claim 12 and 13 above apply as well for these claims.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Zoila Cabrera, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3738. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST (every other Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by phone fail, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard, can be reached on (571) 272-3749. Additionally, the fax phones for Art Unit 2125 are (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist at (703) 305-9600.

Zoila Cabrera
Patent Examiner
5/2/05

Jayprakash N. Gandhi
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2125

JN Gandhi